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VALDOSTA SITE OF STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD MEETING OCT 19 & 20

ATLANTA—The State Transportation Board (STB) will hold its October meeting in Valdosta by invitation of Tim Golden, who represents Georgia's 8th Congressional District on the Board.

This month's two-day meeting includes committee meetings on Wednesday, Oct. 19 at 2:15 p.m. and the official monthly board meeting at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 20. The meetings will be held at the James H. Rainwater Conference Center, 1 Meeting Place in Valdosta.

"It is an honor to host the monthly meeting of the STB in Valdosta," said Golden. "Transportation infrastructure is key to economic expansion both in South Georgia and around the state. To have the Commissioner and his staff along with the STB provides us a great opportunity to showcase our region of the state."

The Board occasionally holds its monthly meeting outside the city of Atlanta to provide Georgia cities and counties with the opportunity to highlight their transportation needs and to underline the value of their transportation investments.

"We are pleased to be in Valdosta and Lowndes County to hear from community leaders and residents," said Georgia DOT Commissioner Russell R. McMurry, P.E. "It's a great opportunity to see firsthand the region's needs."

On Wednesday, the STB, with the Commissioner and others, will also dedicate U.S. Highway 22/State Route 31 from the intersection of SR 11 and SR 31 in Lakeland to the intersection of SR 7 and SR 31 in Valdosta in Lowndes County as the James Slaton "Jay" Shaw Memorial Highway. The road dedication ceremony will be held at 1:00 p.m. at the Jim and Mary Threatte Arts & Civic Center, 99 East Burnt Church Road in Lakeland. The public is invited to attend.

On Thursday, regional projects will be highlighted at the STB meeting. These include construction of four-lane bridges on I-75 at exits 2, 11, 22, and 29 and a lane extension at exit 2. Among other projects of interest, within the city of Valdosta, Jerry Jones will gain a lane extension from Baytree Road to Oak Street.

The 14-member State Transportation Board determines policy and generally governs the Georgia Department of Transportation. Each member is elected by a caucus of Georgia General Assembly

members from their specific congressional district. Board members serve staggered, five-year terms. For more information, visit <http://www.dot.ga.gov/AboutGDOT/Board>.

2016 is Georgia Department of Transportation's centennial. For 100 years Georgia DOT's work has contributed to a treasured quality of life for residents and to the incredible economic development of the Peach State. The Department has served for a century with simply the best in safety, service and innovation. As the next 100 years unfold, we will continue to encourage innovation, meet new challenges and break new barriers for the people of Georgia. Visit www.dot.ga.gov. Follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/GeorgiaDOT) and Twitter (<http://twitter.com/gadepftotrans>).